Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising the steps of:

searching a computer network for at least one printer accessible by the client machine via connection through an associated server;

selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user;

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer;

retrieving the a network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user;

storing the network address, corresponding identifier data,corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected accessible printer.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of downloading a printer driver from an associated print server.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of exporting a function to the printer driver.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

5. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

6. (Currently Amended)   The method of ~~claim~~ 5, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an ~~Internetwork~~ Internet Packet Exchange protocol.

7. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step further comprises storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

8. (Currently Amended)   A system for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising:

means adapted for searching a computer network for at least one printer accessible by the client machine via connection through an associated server;

means adapted for selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user;

means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer;

means adapted for retrieving ~~the~~ a network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user;

means adapted for storing the network address, corresponding identifier data ~~corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer~~, and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

means adapted for mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected accessible printer.

9. (Original)   The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for downloading an associated printer driver from a print server.

10. (Original) The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

12. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of 12, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an ~~Internetwork~~ Internet Packet Exchange protocol.

14. (Original) The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising the steps of:
searching a computer network for at least one printer accessible by the client machine via a connection through an associated server;
selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user;
retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer;
retrieving ~~the~~ a network address corresponding to at least one accessible printer selected by a user;
storing the network address, corresponding identifier data, ~~corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer~~ and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and
mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the

client machine is able to pass through an actual port <u>associated therewith for bidirectional data communication</u> with the at least one selected accessible printer.

16. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, further comprising the step of downloading a printer driver from a print server.

17. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, further comprising the step of exporting a function to the printer driver.

18. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

19. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

20. (Original) The computer-implemented method of 19, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internetwork Packet Exchange protocol.

21. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the storing step further comprises storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

22. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable medium for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising:

means adapted for searching a computer network for at least one printer accessible by the client machine <u>via a connection through an associated server</u>;

means adapted for selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user;

<u>means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer;</u>

means adapted for retrieving <s>the</s> <u>a</u> network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user;

means adapted for storing the network address, corresponding identifier data, corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

means adapted for mapping a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected accessible printer.

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for downloading a printer driver from a print server.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver.

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of 26, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internetwork Internet Packet Exchange protocol.

28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.